

26 MAR 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, PI

THROUGH:

DD/I Representative on IPC

SUBJECT:

Guidance for Collection of Post-World War II Soviet
Topographic Maps

REFERENCES:

- (a) DCID 4/6, (Secret)
- (b) IPC List USSR, dated 1 May 1956, (Top Secret)
- (c) Geographic Research Area suggested revisions to "IPC List USSR", submitted to St/I/RD, 5 Feb. 1958, (Secret)
- (d) RD-C-1157, dated 6 Dec. 1955, (Secret)
- (e) Department of Air Force Intelligence Collection Guidance Letter No. 4, 15 Sep. 1956, (Secret)
- (f) Department of the Army, ACSI Intelligence Collection Memorandum 26-20-27 (CE), 26 Apr. 1957, (Secret)
- (g) Department of the Army, ACSI Intelligence Collection Memorandum 26-20-29 (CE), 10 Sep. 1957, (Confidential)
- (h) Department of the Army, ACSI letter to CIA, dated 9 Aug. 1957, (Secret)
- (i) Letter from CIA (AD/CN) to ACSI, Army, dated 10 Feb. 1958, (Secret)
- (j) CIA/ER-ER-8, June 1954, (Secret)

1. This memorandum has been prepared as a result of a recent exchange of letters between CIA and Army [References (h) and (i)], conversations within the Geographic Research Area, GRS (GRA), and discussions between personnel of the GRA and PI/BGM and PI/SCD, all dealing with the urgent problems connected with collection of Soviet topographic maps. This collection has been established as a 1st priority in the IPC List, USSR [Reference (b)]. The information herein is offered as additional operational guidance to DD/P, and represents a coordinated effort on the part of representatives of IAC agencies to present a unified approach to priority and monetary questions heretofore not considered. The urgency and critical importance attached to an all-out effort to collect these maps is related to their application in missile guidance systems, target positioning for strategic and tactical bombing, radar bombing and navigational aids, and a host of intelligence uses.

2. Specific requirements and detailed guidance have been issued by CIA and Defense Department components as noted in the above references; however, all attempts to collect copies of post-World War II topographic maps of the Soviet Union have thus far been completely unsuccessful. This memorandum is not intended as an abrogation of previous issuances on the subject; it is, rather, an interim statement concerning area priorities, scale priorities, and monetary values.

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3. In the letter to ACII from OCN [Reference (i)], it was stated that a procurement advisory group, with representatives from Army, Navy, Air Force, and CIA, would be called together to consider support needs and collection priorities considered of utmost importance in the pursuit of the goal of collection of Soviet maps. Three subjects initially considered were:

- a. The establishment of scale priorities;
- b. The establishment of area priorities;
- c. The attachment of monetary values to sheets and groups of sheets according to scale and area priorities.

The composition of this advisory group was as follows:

Department of Defense.....Colonel E. I. Pratt and
Mr. Harry Coggins
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Department of the Army.....Colonel E. Lawton,
Chief, Topographic and
Geodetic Division, ACII

Department of the Navy.....Commander Victor Maiteret
ONI, OP 922 H1

Department of the Air Force.....Mr. Robert Coffelt
AFCIN 3 C

CIA.....[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
Map Library Division, ORR

This group held two meetings during February 1958 to discuss the above subjects, and this memorandum is devoted to conclusions reached by the group. All statements in the attachments have been concurred in by this group; they reflect the coordinated priorities of the four agencies.

4. Priorities of scale are: I. Military 1:100,000; II. Civilian 1:100,000; III. 1:300,000; and, IV. 1:25,000 of selected potential amphibious operations areas. The area priorities are delineated on the attached map. This shows broad areas, marked I through V, areas of special interest to the Navy, and specific targets of interest to the Air Force. It is recommended that this map not be used for field collection guidance.

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The same information will be plotted on an index map of the 1:100,000 series for operational use. An average maximum price of [redacted] per sheet for any of the sheets specified has been determined. It should be noted that the Department of the Army has estimated that it would cost approximately [redacted] to produce complete coverage of the Soviet Union at 1:100,000 if unlimited access were possible. This production would occupy the full time and facilities of the entire U.S. Government and commercial production capabilities for seven years.

5. Continuing operational support from the Geographic Research Area, supplied through the Map Library, will be made available to DD/P collectors. The substance and scheduling of papers dealing with collection will be worked out between the Map Library and DD/P components. Subjects that might be considered for intensive study in GRA are: analysis of Soviet mapping organizations; collection of Soviet geodetic data; biographic briefs on selected key personnel with potential access to these maps; briefing material designed to demonstrate comparative features of pre-war vs. post-war Soviet maps; scale differentiation, date determination, map content, vis., topographic and cultural features, geodetic information, begun or training map detection; analysis of security controls used by the USSR; organization and biographic information on selected non-Soviet agencies, individuals, and companies dealing with mapping, instrument sales and manufacture, and aerial photography; and data on professional societies and international organizations. There is a vast store of information and knowledge on these subjects in the IAC agencies; Defense components will provide all technical and other assistance as required. The Department of the Army has tentatively offered to furnish a competent person to work full-time as required on this project. The Map Library will, therefore, develop a coordinated requirements and collection guidance program to backstop the project and add all possible information, both for operational support, and to fill gaps in essential information required by the Agency and other IAC agencies. Utilization of all feasible collection resources will be the goal of this effort, i.e., military attaché system, Department of State (particularly the Geographic Attachés), CO/C, DD/P, and the exploitation of literature and files. This requirement program should not be confused with the actual clandestine activities associated with the collection of the maps; it is a normal and continuing function of all U. S. mapping agencies, and should furnish additional data which could contribute to DD/P efforts. The Map Library views the efforts devoted to the collection of the maps, in association with the collection and analysis of supporting data, as a continuing process. New information will be constantly added to a growing fund of knowledge on this subject, and field collectors should be kept cognizant.

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6. The next project to be undertaken by the inter-agency procurement advisory group referred to in paragraph 3 is to present to DD/P a coordinated statement containing similar information covering Satellite topographic maps. The priority for clandestine collection of these maps has been established in the various existing IPC lists for the countries involved.

7. Area, scale and cost guidance is offered in this memorandum for operational planning purposes. The conclusions could conceivably be altered completely upon receipt of one or several sheets of the maps in question. If an unforeseen opportunity arises to initially obtain one or two sheets, they should be obtained regardless of scale (1:300,000, 1:100,000, 1:50,000, or 1:25,000 topographic maps), regardless of priority areas, and at perhaps double the price cited above. Available information derives from many published and unpublished sources of varying reliability; there is by no means unanimity amongst the IAC agencies regarding questions such as whether there is in fact complete coverage at 1:100,000, whether there are separate and distinct military and civilian editions at the mentioned scales, whether a series has been compiled at 1:300,000, whether useful positioning information would show on any of the sheets, and which sheets might be entirely new compilations as opposed to re-compilations and photo-revisions. The information provided herein is believed to be as reliable as existing information will allow. It can readily be seen that the acquisition of the "first" sheets of each scale is an extremely important factor in future revisions of this guide.

8. One danger inherent in the use of monetary values on the scale considered here is in the field of counter-intelligence. Phony sheets that would be difficult to detect could be produced and allowed to fall into the U. S. possession as part of a planned program of deception if the USSR were cognizant of the priority and value attached to collection of these maps. Reports of such deception by the USSR against Germany during World War II using maps which led to chaotic conditions in the Wehrmacht demonstrate the possibility of such tactics. Accordingly, all persons thus far involved in discussions of this matter have been warned that it is to be treated on a need-to-know basis.

(SAC-DO-100-100-100-100-100-100)

FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, RESEARCH AND REPORTS:

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T - D\CG - RL - D\A\PC
S - C\U\G
T - OCM - RL - R\CC\O\Y
T - D\A\I
J - D\A\W


Chief, Geographic Research Area

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Attachment(s):

- DD/P RCD: ON 100
1. Monetary Values
 2. Scale Priorities
 3. Area Priorities

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